

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LA PORTE COUNTY

555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 202 La Porte, IN 46350-3400 Phone: (219) 326-6808 ext. 2229 Richard Mrozinski, President

Connie Gramarossa, Vice President

Dr. Vidya Kora, Member

LA PORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at the La Porte County Complex Meeting Room #3 at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

President Mrozinski called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Requested all non-essential cell phones to be turned off.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Mrozinski asked John Jones to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Auditor Joie Winski called the roll: Commissioner Gramarossa - Present; Commissioner Kora - Present; Commissioner Mrozinski - Present. Quorum present therefore meeting commenced.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Kora motioned to approve the agenda by adding under New Business opening RFQs (Request for Qualifications) for construction manager on the Michigan City Courthouse Project. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried. Motion made by Commissioner Kora to approve said amended agenda. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MAY 2nd, 2018 MINUTES

Commissioner Kora motioned to approve the minutes from the May 2nd meeting. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kora welcomed Connie Gramarossa as the new Commissioner replacing Mike Gonder who resigned. Commissioner Kora motioned to nominate Connie as Vice President. Seconded by Commissioner Mrozinski. Connie accepted. Motion carried.

Liaison positions for Commissioner Gramarossa are Plan Commission, Right-To-Know, NICTD, Drainage Board, E-911 Board, Juvenile Services Board, Solid Waste Management Board and the Kankakee River Basin Commission.

CLAIMS

Auditor Winski read the claims with Payroll ending 5-4-2018 - \$1,152,883.71 and Miscellaneous - \$709,454.66. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried.

Voice of Democracy essay winner Keeley Higley read her winning speech.



PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Holifield - 6782 E. 100 S. Mill Creek - Inquired names of the Blue Ribbon committee associated with the fair board. Attorney Biege stated the Blue Ribbon committee is null and void.

Kathy Aurenz - 7765 N. Spruce Lane New Carlisle - Thanked Commissioners for resolving fence issue.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Jeremy Sobecki - Parks Dept - Reported on a new floating bridge over wetlands connecting two trails at Red Mill Park. Approx. 200 feet long with benches. Donation was made in order for this to be accomplished. Dedication will be Saturday, June 23rd at 10:00 a.m. Jeremy also requested a vehicle for his assistant to take home. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried.

REQUESTS

Erika Stallworth - Juvenile Services - Requested permission for travel to Durham, NC. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

John Jones - Michiana Insurance - La Porte County Property and Casualty Insurance renewal. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried.

Garrett Keznor - Gallagher Bassett - Third Party Administrator Services contract renewal. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Proclaimed National Drug Court Awareness Month May 2018. Commissioner Kora read the Proclamation. ***
Resolution 2018-2 - Supporting Northern Indiana Regional Planning Commission and Economic Development
Administration. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried. ***
Industrial Appraisal Company agreement. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Gramarossa
seconded. Motion carried.

Attorney Doug Biege opened RFQs for Construction Manager to work on the Michigan City Courthouse Project. Four came in on time and were opened. Tonn & Blank, the Skillman Corporation, Bergland Construction and Larson Danielson Construction. Motion made by Commissioner Kora to accept all four RFQs for review then recommendation to be determined. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried. RFQs were moved to complex room #2 for viewing.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Kora stated he attended a health insurance meeting. Cost is \$26,000 less than last year. Commissioner Gramarossa stated she attended a FEMA meeting and will give information at the next meeting. President Mrozinski reminded all that Memorial Day will be May 28th this year, honor our veterans.

<u>ADJOURN</u>

Commissioner Kora motioned to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried.

*** Attached to the minutes

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ORIGINAL



ALL RISE

Proclamation in Support of National Drug Court Month

WHEREAS	there are now more than 3,000 treatment courts nationwide; and			
WATERING				
WHEREAS	treatment courts are the cornerstone of justice reform sweeping the nation; and			
WHEREAS	treatment courts have served more than 1,4 million individuals; and			
WHEREAS	they are now recognized as the most successful justice system intervention in our nation's history; and			
WHEREAS	they save up to \$27 for every \$1 invested and up to \$13,000 for every individual they serve; and			
WHEREAS	treatment courts significantly improve substance use disorder treatment outcomes, substantially reduce addiction and related crime, and do so at less expense than any other criminal justice strategy; and			
WHEREAS	treatment courts improve education, employment, housing and financial stability promote family reunification, reduce foster care placements, and increase the respective of addicted mothers delivering babies who are fully drug free.			
WHEREAS	treatment courts facilitate community-wide partnerships, bringing together public safety and public health professionals; and			
WHEREAS	treatment courts demonstrate that when one person rises out of substance use and crime, we all rise; and			
WHEREAS	the time has come to put a treatment court within reach of every eligible person in need. Aforte Courty Board of			
Therefore, 1	SETT RESOLVED that the control of the second			
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be established during the month of May 2018.

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE	
DATE SOLVE S	
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ATTEST:	

A PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND AWARDING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT STATUS BY THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) requires a CEDS as a prerequisite for designation as an Economic Development District (EDD), and

WHEREAS, EDA requires submittal of a CEDS to qualify for assistance under its Public Works, Economic Adjustment, and Planning Programs, and awarding of grants to eligible communities, and

WHEREAS, district status would make communities in LaPorte County that do not meet the distressed community requirements eligible for EDA funds, and

WHEREAS, under IC 36-7-7.6-12 one of the stated purposes of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission is to institute and maintain a comprehensive planning and programming process for economic development policy and provide a coordinative management process for Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission for Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties is the recognized regional organization responsible for updating and applying the programs set forth in the CEDS; and

WHEREAS, this body has previously supported the establish of an Economic Development District broadly representative of the principal economic interests of the Northwestern Indiana region,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the LaPorte County Commissioners:

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- 1. Support the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission as the designated Economic Development District of Northwest Indiana and
- 2. Support and endorse the request to the Economic Development Administration.

Approved this 16th day of May, 2018

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